The invention in which an exclusive right is claimed is defined by the following:

1. A method of accessing information related to a peripheral device connected to a host device, comprising the steps of:

(a) obtaining from the peripheral device at least one identifier identifying the peripheral device;

(b) determining a network address based on said at least one identifier; and

(c) enabling communication between the host device and a remote device at the network address, said communication pertaining to the peripheral device.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining occurs automatically when the host device detects a change in a number of peripheral devices connected to the host device.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining occurs automatically when a user manually provides an indication to the host device that the peripheral device is connected to the host device.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of determining comprises the steps of employing said at least one identifier as at least a portion of the network address.

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining comprises the steps of:

(a) issuing a request to the peripheral device for a device descriptor;

(b) receiving the device descriptor from the peripheral device; and

(c) parsing the device descriptor to determine said at least one identifier.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of obtaining comprises the steps of:

(a) issuing a request to the peripheral device for a string descriptor comprising said at least one identifier;

(b) receiving the string descriptor from the peripheral device; and

(c) parsing the string descriptor to determine said at least one identifier.

7. The method of Claim 1, whereby the step of obtaining comprises the steps of:

(a) issuing a Class request to the peripheral device for at least one identifier; and

(b) receiving said at least one identifier.

8. The method of Claim 1, whereby the step of reading comprises the steps of:

(a) issuing a Vendor Specific Device request to the peripheral device for said at least one identifier; and

(b) receiving said at least one identifier from the peripheral device.

9. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of determining a network address comprises accessing a database that includes a plurality of network addresses, using said at least one identifier to find the network address in the database.

10. The method of Claim 9, wherein the database is stored on the host device.

11. The method of Claim 9, wherein the database is stored on a device that is accessible by the host device.

12. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of determining a network address comprises the step of generating a network address based on said at least one identifier.

13. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of enabling communication comprises the step of automatically retrieving at least one of data, machine instructions, and a document pertaining to the peripheral device from the remote device using the network address.

14. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of enabling communication comprises the step of automatically downloading a setup program that is stored on the remote device and pertains to the peripheral device.

15. The method of Claim 14, wherein the step of enabling communication further comprises the step of automatically executing the setup program that was downloaded to the host device to install software on the host device pertaining to the peripheral device.

16. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of enabling communication comprises the step of automatically installing a device driver for the peripheral device on the host device.

17. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of enabling communication comprises the step of automatically downloading an application program that is stored on the remote device and pertains to use of the peripheral device by the host device.

18. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of enabling communication comprises the step of automatically downloading and installing firmware into the peripheral device.

19. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of creating a link to the network address that a user can subsequently select to later communicate with the remote device.

20. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of communicating comprises the step of automatically executing a browser function on the host device to automatically access the remote device at the network address with the browser function.

21. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of enabling a user to selectively execute a browser function on the host device to automatically access the remote device at the network address.

22. The method of Claim 21, further comprising the step of enabling a user to suppress further requests to execute a browser function on the host device, and to suppress automatically accessing the network address.

23. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of periodically updating the database to add and change network addresses pertaining to peripheral devices, each network address being accessed based upon at least one identifier obtained from a peripheral device.

24. A machine-readable medium having machine-executable instructions that when executed by a processor, cause the processor to implement steps (a) through (c) of Claim 1.

25. A system for automatically accessing information related to a peripheral device, comprising:

(a) a peripheral device in which is stored at least one identifier;

(b) a remote device adapted to communicate over a network; and

(c) a host device comprising:

(i) a memory in which are stored machine instructions;

(ii) a network interface adapted to communicate with the remote device over the network; and

(iii) a processor; said processor executing the machine instructions stored in the memory, to carry out a plurality of functions, including:

(1) communicating with the peripheral device to obtain at least one identifier identifying the peripheral device;

(2) determining a network address based on said at least one identifier; and

(3) enabling a communication between the host device and the remote device at the network address, said communication pertaining to the peripheral device.

26. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to:

(a) issue a request to the peripheral device for a device descriptor;

(b) receive the device descriptor from the peripheral device; and

(c) parse the device descriptor to determine said at least one identifier.

27. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to:

(a) issue a request to the peripheral device for a string descriptor comprising said at least one identifier;

(b) receive the string descriptor from the peripheral device; and

(c) parse the string descriptor to determine said at least one identifier.

28. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to:

(a) issue a Class request to the peripheral device for at least one identifier; and

(b) receive said at least one identifier.

29. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to:

(a) issue a Vendor Specific Device request to the peripheral device for said at least one identifier; and

(b) receive said at least one identifier from the peripheral device.

30. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to determine a network address by accessing a database that includes a plurality of network addresses, using said at least one identifier to find the network address in the database.

31. The system of Claim 30, wherein said database is stored by the host device.

32. The system of Claim 30, wherein said database is stored by a device that is accessible by the host device.

33. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to generate a network address based on said at least one identifier.

34. The system of Claim 25 wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to automatically retrieve at least one of data, machine instructions, and a document pertaining to the peripheral device from the remote device using the network address.

35. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to automatically download a setup program that is stored on the remote device and pertains to the peripheral device.

36. The system of Claim 35, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to automatically execute the setup program that was downloaded to the host device, to install software on the host device pertaining to the peripheral device.

37. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to automatically install a device driver for the peripheral device on the host device.

38. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to automatically download an application program that is stored on the remote device and pertains to use of the peripheral device by the host device.

39. The method of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to automatically download and install firmware into the peripheral device.

40. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to create a link to the network address that a user can subsequently select to later communicate with the remote device.

41. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to automatically execute a browser function on the host device to automatically access the remote device at the network address with the browser function.

42. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to enable a user to selectively execute a browser function on the host device to automatically access the remote device at the network address, to display a web page indicated by the network address.

43. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to enable a user to suppress further requests to execute a browser function on the host device and to suppress automatically accessing the network address.

44. The system of Claim 25, wherein said machine instructions further cause the processor to periodically update a database that includes a plurality of network addresses, to add and change network addresses pertaining to peripheral devices, each network address being indexed using at least one identifier obtained from a peripheral device.